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What is Claimed is:

1. A method of facilitating collaborative browsing of documents containing hypertext by at least two client computers each of which having access to the Internet, the documents accessible from at least one server computer accessible from the Internet, the method comprising the steps of:
obtaining a URL of a document which is accessible from a first server, the document to be viewed at a second client computer, the URL having been selected through use of browser software running on the first client computer;
generating a message addressed to the second client computer, the message including the URL of the document to be viewed at the second computer; and
transmitting the message to the second client computer.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of addressing a message comprises the step of identifying the second client computer in a database of client computers which are to participate in collaborative browsing of the document.
3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of receiving and storing in a database information identifying the second client computer participating in the browsing.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of addressing makes use of the second client computer's Internet protocol address.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of the method are performed by a server, coupled to the Internet, which server is different from the server associated with the URL of the document.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of the method are performed by the first client computer.

7. A method of facilitating collaborative browsing of documents containing hypertext by at least two client computers each of which having access to the Internet, the documents accessible from at least one server computer accessible from to the Internet, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a URL of a document accessible from a first server, the document to be viewed at the first and second client computers, the URL having been selected through use of browser software running on the first client computer;

generating a message addressed to a second server which maintains a database of client computers which are to participate in collaborative browsing, the message including the selected URL of the document accessible from the first server; and

transmitting the generated message to the second server.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising the steps of:

receiving from the second server an indicator specifying an authorization for the first client computer to transmit the message to the second server; and
prior to the transmitting step, checking the indicator to determine whether the step of transmitting may be performed by the first client computer.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein the step of generating a message makes use of the IP address of the second server.

10. The method of claim 7 further comprising the steps of:

receiving at the first client computer a message containing the URL of the document which is accessible from a first server, the document to be viewed at the first client computer;

in response to receiving the message containing the URL, generating a message to be sent to the first server, the message including the URL of the document to be viewed at the first client computer, the first client computer having refrained from sending a message to the first server in response to the step of selecting the URL;

transmitting the message to the first server;

receiving the document specified by the URL from the first server; and
displaying the document.

11. A method of facilitating collaborative browsing of documents containing
hypertext by at least two client computers each of which having access to the Internet, the
documents accessible from at least one server computer accessible from the Internet, the
method comprising the steps of:

receiving at a second client computer a URL of a document which is accessible
from a first server, the document to be viewed at the second client computer, the URL
having been selected through use of browser software running on a first client computer;
generating a message to be sent to the first server, the message including the URL
of the document to be viewed at the second computer;
transmitting the message to the first server;
receiving the document specified by the URL from the first server; and
displaying the document.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the URL is received from a second server
accessible from the Internet, the second server maintaining a database of client computers
which are to participate in collaborative browsing, the second client computer being
represented in the database.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the URL is received from the first client
computer.